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Atty. Dkt. No. 068398-0102

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Virgil D. Gligor et al.

Title: BLOCK ENCRYPTION METHOD AND SCHEMES FOR DATA  
CONFIDENTIALITY AND INTEGRITY PROTECTION

Appl. No.: 09/761,771

Filing Date: 01/18/2001

Examiner: Tongoc Tran

Art Unit: 2134

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated December 23, 2004, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this document.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 28 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: